

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
1930 9th AVE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
Zoom Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
March 23, 2023**

Members Present

Dr. Mikael Bedell, vice chair
Commissioner Tom Rolfe
Mayor Wilmot Collins (arrived @ 1:27pm)
Brie MacLaurin
Lisa Kaufman
Katherine Weber

Staff Present

Drenda Niemann
Jolene Helgerson
Laurel Riek
Brett Lloyd
Nina Heinzinger
A.C. Rothenbuecher

Members Absent

Justin Murgel, chair
Mayor Kelly Harris
Rex Wertz

Guests Present

Dr. Mikael Bedell, vice chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were made. No public comment was given.

MINUTES

Dr. Bedell asked if there were any corrections or additions to the February 23, 2023. There being none, the Board approved the minutes as written. No public comment was given.

ACTION ITEMS

PHAB Reaccreditation Letter of Support: Drenda Niemann, Health Officer, presented the PHAB Reaccreditation letter of support (on page 7 of the board packet) for review and approval. Ms. Niemann noted that as part of application to apply for reaccreditation, a signed letter of support is required by both the Board of Health and Local Governing Body. Brie MacLaurin made a motion to approve the PHAB Reaccreditation letter of support. Lisa Kaufman seconded the motion. No public comment was given. The motion carried 5-0.

Communicable Disease Update and Response Plan Promulgations: Laurel Riek, Disease Control and Prevention Division Administrator, along with Brett Lloyd, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, and Nina Heinzinger, Licensed Establishment Supervisor, provided a communicable disease update (see Attachment “A”) in which Ms. Riek discussed the 2018-2022 reportable diseases in Lewis and Clark County. Next, the team presented the Communicable Disease Response Plan in which they discussed the purpose of the plan, Board of Health’s role, outbreak response, and community-wide response. In answer to a question from Dr. Bedell, Mr. Lloyd said that the previous plan was effective during the COVID-19 Pandemic and served the community well. Mr. Lloyd went on to explain that Public Health was able to adapt to the need for immediate hiring, new online serves were designed, along with developing a central location for both testing and immunization.

In answer to a question from Commissioner Tom Rolfe, Mr. Lloyd said that after the committee reviewed the After-Action Report, they agreed that improvements to barriers with language, social, and economic impacts were needed along with improvements to education and messaging. There being no further board member discussion, Ms. Kaufman made a motion to approve the Response Plan Promulgations. Commissioner Rolfe seconded the motion. No public comment was given. The motion carried 6-0.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Transition to hybrid meetings/location: The board agreed to meet in-person and by zoom starting at their April 2023 board meeting. The in-person meeting will take place at 1930 9th Ave. in the Murray Building Board Room.

Workforce Development Plan: A.C Rothenbuecher, Community Health Promotion Division Administrator, presented the 2023-2026 Workforce Development Plan (on pages 16-112 of the board packet). Ms. Rothenbuecher discussed the plan overview, Phases 1-6 of the plan, and referenced the supplemental documents to the plan.

Board Finance Committee: Ms. Niemann provided an update on the Fiscal Year 2024 budget process and asked if there were any board members interested in participating on the finance committee. Ms. MacLaurin volunteered and noted that Justin Murgel would most likely attend also.

No public comment was given.

HEALTH OFFICERS REPORT

Strategic Planning Update: The 2023-2026 Strategic Plan draft will be finalized for board review at their April board meeting.

Legislative Update: Ms. Niemann offered a short update on activities of the Montana Legislature related to public health (see Attachment “B”).

Local Governing Body: The County Attorney is continuing his work on the amendments to the Local Governing Body By-Laws.

No public comment was given.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.

The meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

Mikael Bedell, Vice Chair

Drenda Niemann, Secretary